

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STOCKH 02191 231506Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----231509Z 006700 /40  
R 231307Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0660

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 2191

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, SW  
SUBJECT: THE NEED FOR A NEW AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN

1. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US-SWEDISH RELATIONS TO ANNOUNCE A NEW US AMBASSADOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
2. READERS WILL DISCERN IMMEDIATELY THAT THE CHARGE HAS EXCEEDED HIS AUTHORITY IN SENDING THAT MESSAGE. THEY WILL ALSO NOTE THAT HE HAS NOTHING TO SAY THAT THEY DO NOT ALREADY KNOW. BUT I FEEL THAT US INTERESTS ARE AFFECTED AND THAT I HAVE A DUTY TO SAY SOMETHING.
3. NEARLY ALL COUNTRIES SHOW GREAT TOLERANCE FOR US WHEN WE CHANGE ADMINISTRATIONS AND TAKE OUR TIME NAMING NEW AMBASSADORS; THE SWEDES CERTAINLY DO. IN MANY COUNTRIES IT DOES NOT MATTER A GREAT DEAL IF THERE IS A GAP. I SERVED AS CHARGE IN PRAGUE FOR ALMOST A YEAR BETWEEN AMBASSADORS, AND DID NOT FEEL ANY SERIOUS HARM WAS DONE US INTERESTS.
4. IN SWEDEN THERE ARE SPECIAL LOCAL FACTORS IN THE EQUATION. DURING THE VIETNAM WAR WE WITHDREW NOT ONLY OUR AMBASSADOR BUT OUR DCM, AND MEMORIES OF CHILLY RELATIONS ARE STILL FRESH (ESPECIALLY SINCE THOSE WHO RAN THE SWEDISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IN THOSE DAYS ARE NOW PLAYING A DOMINANT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STOCKH 02191 231506Z

PART IN RUNNING THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN STOCKHOLM). WHEN PALME FELL FROM POWER LAST FALL, THERE WAS EXPECTATION THAT US-SWEDISH RELATIONS WOULD PICK UP EVEN MORE.

5. THE LAST AMBASSADOR ONLY ARRIVED IN MAY 1976 AND BECAME FAIRLY OBVIOUSLY A LAME DUCK AFTER THE DEMOCRATS WON IN NOVEMBER. HE LEFT IN APRIL, AND DESPITE A PLETHORA OF

PRESS STORIES ABOUT THE NEW US AMBASSADOR (UNFORTUNATELY NOT PUTTING THE REPORTED CANDIDATE IN THE BEST LIGHT), WE ARE THREE MONTHS PAST INAUGURATION WITHOUT ANYONE BEING NAMED. THE SWEDES ARE BEGINNING TO WONDER, AND TO ASK US AT THE EMBASSY, WHY THE DELAY. THE LONGER IT GOES ON, THE MORE DANGER THERE WILL BE THAT THE SWEDES WILL FEEL SLIGHTED, OR SEE A POLITICAL MESSAGE WHERE THERE IS NONE. HAPPILY THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION TO FOREIGN MINISTER SODER WHEN SHE COMES TO WASHINGTON JUNE 29, BUT IF THE NEW AMBASSADOR SHOULD NOT BE ANNOUNCED BY THEN, EXPLAINING WILL BE HARD.

6. MAYBE YOU ARE GETTING LOTS OF MESSAGES URGING YOU TO HURRP UP NAMING AN AMBASSADOR TO THEIR COUNTRY. I KNOW THE PROCEDURES ARE COFPLICATED AND TAKE TIME. I ALSO KNOW SWEDEN IS NOT THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE. BUT THIS IS ONE COUNTRY WHERE DELAY IS HURTING OUR INTERESTS, AND WHERE FORTUNATE CHANCES ARE IMPROVING BILATERAL COOPERATION WILL SUFFER IF THE DELAY CONTINUES.

7. SO WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US-SWEDISH RELATIONS TO ANNOUNCE A NEW US AMBASSADOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
PERRY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, CAT-A  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STOCKH02191  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** P840084-2008, N770003-0473  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STOCKHOLM  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770526/aaaaawtl.tel  
**Line Count:** 86  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 689ebf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NODS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2400946  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THE NEED FOR A NEW AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN  
**TAGS:** PDIP, PFOR, SW, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/689ebf8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009